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Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-14 EA-12 EUR-12 NEA-11 ISO-00
OIC-02 EB-08 AID-05 TRSE-00 OMB-01 ABF-01 CIAE-00
INR-10 NSAE-00 HEW-06 OES-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 AGRE-00
ICA-20 /139 W
----------018263 041455Z /50
R 041423Z MAY 78
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9204
INFO AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 GENEVA 06774

PARIS FOR UNESCO
ROME FOR FODAG

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PORG, UN
SUBJECT: GENEVA GROUP AGREED CONCLUSIONS: INDICATIVE
TARGET FIGURE APPROACH

TEXT FOLLOWS OF THE PORTION OF THE AGREED CONCLUSIONS
OF THE MAY 2-3 MEETING OF THE GENEVA GROUP AT THE
CONSULTATIVE LEVEL ON THE INDICATIVE TARGET FIGURE
APPROACH: BEGIN TEXT

THE GROUP REVIEWED THE REPORTS PRESENTED BY THE
LOCAL GENEVA GROUPS FOR WHO, ILO, FAO AND UNESCO.

THE GROUP NOTED INCREASED ACTIVITY AND THE DIFFERENT
EXPERIENCES ENCOUNTERED AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, AND URGED
THESE FOUR LOCAL GROUPS TO CONTINUE AND INTENSIFY DIALOGUE
WITH THEIR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS. THE GROUP RECOG-
NIZED THE NEED FOR EACH LOCAL GROUP TO TAILOR ITS APPROACH
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IN THE BUDGETARY DIALOGUE TO THE SPECIAL CONDITIONS OF
ITS OWN AGENCY, BUT AFFIRMED THE NEED TO WORK TOWARD
CONTROLLING BUDGETARY INCREASES IN EACH THROUGH THE USE
OF REALISTIC INDICATIVE TARGET FIGURES. TO THIS END THE
GROUP REAFFIRMED THE NEED FOR BETTER BUDGETARY ANALYSIS
AND THE USEFULNESS IN THIS RESPECT OF THE STANDARD ANALY-
TICAL FRAMEWORK FOR PROGRAM BUDGET ANALYSIS. IT NOTED

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THAT IN USING THIS DOCUMENT IT SHOULD BE KEPT IN MIND
THAT THE CRITICAL POINT IS THE CONCEPTS OUTLINED THEREIN
RATHER THAN THE FRAMEWORK ITSELF.

OTHER POINTS OF GENERAL APPLICABILITY MENTIONED BY
A NUMBER OF COUNTRIES WERE:
CO-CHAIRMEN MIGHT GIVE GUIDANCE ON A COMMON FORMAT
FOR SUBSEQUENT REPORTS BY LOCAL GROUPS; LOCAL GROUPS
SHOULD TAKE INTO ACCOUNT PROGRAM CONTENT IN DETERMINING
INDICATIVE TARGETS, AND SHOULD CONSIDER THE RELEVANCE OF
MEDIUM TERM PLANS IN THIS CONNECTION; THE POSSIBILITY
MIGHT BE CONSIDERED OF CONSULTING AT AN APPROPRIATE STAGE
WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF SELECTED DEVELOPING COUNTRIES; AND
THE DESIRABILITY OF INTERVENING WITH SECRETARIATS AT THE
EARLIEST POSSIBLE STAGE IN THE BUDGET CYCLE IS A CRITICAL
CONSIDERATION.

WHO:

THE GROUP WELCOMES THE SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS MADE
WITH WHO IN AGREEING AN INDICATIVE TARGET FIGURE OF UP
TO 2 PERCENT REAL GROWTH PER ANNUM FOR THE 1980/81
BUDGET AND THE DIALOGUE WHICH HAD BEEN OPENED IN APPLYING
A STANDARD ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK FOR EXAMINING THE PROGRAM
BUDGETS OF WHO. THE GROUP INVITED THE WHO GROUP TO
PURSUE THIS POSITIVE DIALOGUE WITH THE WHO SECRETARIAT.
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ILO:

THE GROUP NOTED THAT GENEVA GROUP MISSIONS HAVE KEPT
IN TOUCH WITH EACH OTHER OVER THE NEED TO REDUCE THE LEVEL
OF EXPENDITURE BUDGETED FOR 1978-79, AND HAVE THE ASSUR-
ANCE OF THE DIRECTOR GENERAL THAT HIS EVENTUAL PROPOSALS
FOR 1980-81 WILL BE BASED ON A PROGRAM REFLECTING A FULL
25 PERCENT REDUCTION. THE GROUP REGRETTED THE DECISION
TAKEN BY THE GOVERNING BODY IN FEBRUARY TO POSTPONE CON-
SIDERATION OF INTRODUCING THE NEW GENEVA GENERAL SERVICE
SALARY SCALE, AND THE IMPLICATIONS IT COULD HAVE FOR THE
COMMON SYSTEM. THE GROUP REQUESTED THE ILO GROUP TO
EXPRESS AT THE FORTHCOMING SESSION OF THE GOVERNING BODY
ITS POSITION THAT THE NEW SCALE SHOULD BE ADOPTED IN
CONFORMITY WITH THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION ON
THIS SUBJECT.

FAO:

THE GROUP NOTED WITH CONCERN THE DIFFICULTIES
ENCOUNTERED BY THE ROME GROUP AND URGED IT TO TAKE AN

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EARLY OPPORTUNITY TO REACH CONSENSUS ON AND INDICATE TO THE FAO SECRETARIAT AN INDICATIVE TARGET FIGURE IN RESPECT OF REAL GROWTH IN THE 1980-81 BUDGET WHICH WAS REASONABLE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED AT THE CONSULTATIVE LEVEL MEETING IN NEW YORK IN OCTOBER 1977 AND THE LARGE BUDGETARY INCREASES GIVEN TO FAO IN RECENT YEARS. THE GROUP INVITED THE ROME GROUP TO STUDY THE INTRODUCTION OF MEDIUM TERM PLANNING IN FAO, AND TO EXPLORE FURTHER THE PRACTICALITY OF DEVELOPING DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH THE SECRETARIAT, AND IN PARTICULAR TO DISCUSS THE USE OF A STANDARD ANALYTICAL FRAMEWORK,

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BEARING IN MIND THE PROGRESS MADE IN THE DIALOGUE WITH WHO.

UNESCO:

DISAPPOINTMENT WAS EXPRESSED THAT NO UNESCO GENEVA GROUP REPORT FORMALLY WAS AVAILABLE. NOTE WAS TAKEN OF THE EFFORTS OF A MAJORITY OF THE PARIS GROUP TO PERSUADE THE DIRECTOR GENERAL TO REDUCE HIS CURRENT BUDGET PROPOSALS FOR 1979-80 TO AN ACCEPTABLE LEVEL. THE GROUP INVITED THE PARIS GROUP TO REACH CONSENSUS ON AND INDICATE TO THE UNESCO SECRETARIAT AN INDICATIVE TARGET FIGURE IN RESPECT OF REAL GROWTH IN THE 1981-82 BUDGET WHICH WAS REASONABLE, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE VIEWS EXPRESSED AT THE CONSULTATIVE LEVEL MEETING IN NEW YORK

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IN OCTOBER 1977 AND THE LARGE BUDGETARY INCREASES GIVEN
TO UNESCO IN RECENT YEARS.

END TEXT. VANDEN HEUVEL

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